



OUR MISSION:
*Living and telling the good news of Jesus Christ,
reaching out to all in love and service.*

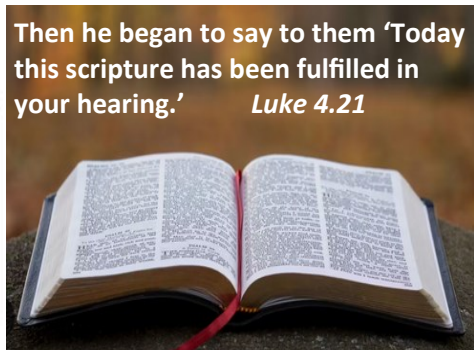
OUR VISION:
To be an outward looking Church

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

26th January 2025

We long for news that is good, O God - good for this earth, good for our hearts, good for communities. Teach us to listen for your good news about those ways you have set before us, exemplified for us, and called forth from us, in Jesus the Christ. Amen

Then he began to say to them 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.' *Luke 4.21*



Sentence & Prayer of the Day

Sentence: Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah: 'The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives.' Luke 4.18

Prayer of the Day: Life-giving God, who sent your Son Jesus to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority: anoint us with your Spirit, that we too may bring good news to the poor, bind up the broken-hearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Readings: This Sunday

Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Ps 19
1 Corinthians 12.12-31 Luke 4.14-21

Next Sunday

Jeremiah 1.4-10 Ps 71.1-6
1 Corinthians 13.1-13 Luke 4.21-30

Sunday Services in our Region

- **Gympie:** St Peter's ► 8.30 am & 5.30 pm
- **Rainbow Beach** - Good Shepherd Church ► 9.30 am
- **Tin Can Bay** - St John Vianney's Catholic Church ► 7.30 am
(1st & 2nd Sunday's)

Prayers

Pray for the Church:

Worldwide: *The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria*

National: *The Diocese of Wangaratta*

Our Diocese: ● *The Parish of Sherwood-Oxley* ● *Archbishop's Examining Chaplains*
● *State School Teachers*

Local:

Ministry: *MU Ministry Gympie*

MU Ministry: *Heavenly Father, we thank you for the many MU members throughout Nigeria. We particularly pray for the diocese of Umuahia and Ijebu. We pray for members in their many activities as they reach out to widows and orphans, to prisons, and to families as they run parenting programs. Bless their times of prayer and sharing your Word. Amen.*

In Need: *Jim Alford; David Arthur; Azzrah; Nicholas Barrett; Bruce Barton; Annette Collins; Val Deans; Pam Dorman; Joyce Gall; Allan Gall; Peter Gall; Baby Louis; Jenny; Graham & Val McClurg; Shirley Summerville; Graham and Beris Trainer; Melodie Zylstra.*

ABM Reflection

Jesus comes to preach in his hometown, not always the easiest of tasks! His message is simple and profound. He quotes from Isaiah's prophecy of freedom and liberation. And simply states that this prophecy is now fulfilled. The core of the teaching of Jesus is simply the Good News that oppression and captivity are ended and are not part of God's will.

- May all people know the Good News that God brings freedom and release from captivity.
- Give thanks for the work and mission of Episcopal Relief and Development, based in the USA

Text: Brother Christopher John SSF © Anglican Board of Mission, 2024

Parish Calendar

26/1 4 th Sunday	27/1 4 th Monday	28/1 4 th Tuesday	29/1 5 th Wed	30/1 5 th Thurs	31/1 5 th Fri	1/2 1 st Sat
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 8.30 am St Peter's 9.30 am Rainbow Bch 5.30 pm St Peter's & Zoom	PUBLIC HOLIDAY AUSTRALIA DAY	9.30 am MU Service @ Anglicare Conf. Rm - Alfred St	Evening Bible Study Pls enquire	3.00 pm Bible Study @ Anglicare Conf. Rm		
2/2 1 st Sunday	3/2 1 st Monday	4/2 1 st Tuesday	5/2 1 st Wed	6/2 1 st Thurs	7/2 1 st Fri	8/2 2 nd Sat
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 7.30 am Tin Can Bay 8.30 am St Peter's @ Anglicare Bldg-Kidz Church 9.30 am Rainbow Bch 5.30 pm St Peter's & Zoom @ Anglicare Bldg	9.30-12 Mainly Music @ St John's Place	5 pm Christian Meditation @ Anglicare Conf. Rm	ASH WEDNESDAY ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE @ 5 pm In Anglicare Conf. Room Evening Bible Study Pls enquire	3.00 pm Bible Study @ Anglicare Conf. Rm		



This Week's Readings

First reading from the Prophet Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹all the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.'

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God:
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork;

² **One day tells it to another:
and night to night communicates knowledge.**

³ There is no speech or language:
nor are their voices heard;

⁴ **Yet their sound has gone out through all the world:
and their words to the ends of the earth.**

⁵ There he has pitched a tent for the sun:
which comes out as a bridegroom from his chamber,
and rejoices like a strong man to run his course.

⁶ **Its rising is at one end of the heavens, and its circuit to their farthest bound:
and nothing is hidden from its heat.**

⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul:
the command of the Lord is true, and makes wise the simple.

⁸ **The precepts of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart:
the commandment of the Lord is pure, and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹ The fear of the Lord is clean, and endures for ever:
the judgements of the Lord are unchanging, and righteous every one.

¹⁰ **More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold:
sweeter also than honey, than the honey that drips from the comb.**

¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant taught:
and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹² **Who can know their own unwitting sins?:**

O cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³ Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the mastery over me:
so I shall be clean, and innocent of great offence.

¹⁴ **May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in your sight:**

O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

A reading from 1 Corinthians 12.12-31

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.

¹⁵If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD

The Holy Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 4.14-21

GLORY TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.' ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

(Pause for reflection)

Hear the Gospel of the Lord

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST.

REFLECTION

Spirited Voice

With the Spirit upon him, Jesus teaches about God's good ways and good news to those whose lives have not experienced good. Such ways and news cry out to be heard and done today. The past may instruct; the future may beckon; today is when these ways and this news need to be lived and fulfilled. This is the day the Spirit empowers us with boldness and trust.

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10 relates how the exiles who returned to Jerusalem hear the word not only read, but also interpreted so that it can be understood. Such teaching relies on the attentive hearing of the people. **Psalm 19** This psalm depicts the telling of God's glory through the many voices and images of creation. The speaking of those witnesses leads to a series of metaphors for the law that forms the basis for life. **1 Corinthians 12:12–31a** Paul reminds this very diverse church of their need for one another. They are formed into God's people just as the human body is formed, with all its separate parts cooperating together in common function and purpose.

Luke 4:14–21 Earlier stories in Luke relate how Mary and Joseph observed Jewish customs (2:21–24, 41). Now the gospel affirms that Jesus honours those traditions. Jesus observes the Sabbath by going to the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth. He stands to read scripture and sits to teach, as was the custom of rabbis.

What did Jesus teach about God's way to those in the Nazareth synagogue?

This passage is only the first half of Jesus' teaching there – the rest comes in next week's focus passage. Jesus begins his teaching by reading a passage from the prophet Isaiah. We do not know if this choice was his or was a designated reading for that Sabbath. It is unclear whether there was a set cycle of readings from the prophets in this era. If it was the designated text, at the very least Jesus invites wonder about what he means by saying these words are fulfilled "in your hearing." But if Jesus chose this passage, there are other implications to consider.

The "year of God's favour" at the end of these words from Isaiah refers to Israel's tradition of Jubilee. Leviticus 25 describes the elements of Jubilee. It was to be observed every fifty years. Jubilee called for the return of all lands to their original owners.

It provided for the freedom of indentured servants. There is no evidence that Israel ever fully kept a year of Jubilee, yet it remained a promise and hope.

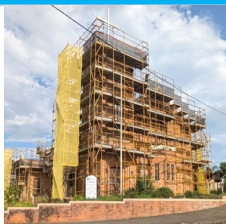
Anointed by the Spirit, Jesus brings the good news of God – release, recovery, setting free. The scriptures for today affirm that God will help us understand and practice God’s good ways. How might Isaiah’s words shape our understanding and practice of mission? In what ways do our words and lives proclaim the good news of God’s ways?

Connecting scripture and life

- How do we interpret who we are as God’s people in a changing world?
- In what ways can we help one another tell our story and remember God’s good news?
- What actions can we take to bring God’s good news – release, recovery, setting free – to our communities?

Copyright © Wood Lake Publishing Inc. 2020 *Seasons of the Spirit™*

NEWS AND NOTICES



SERVICES AT ST PETER’S

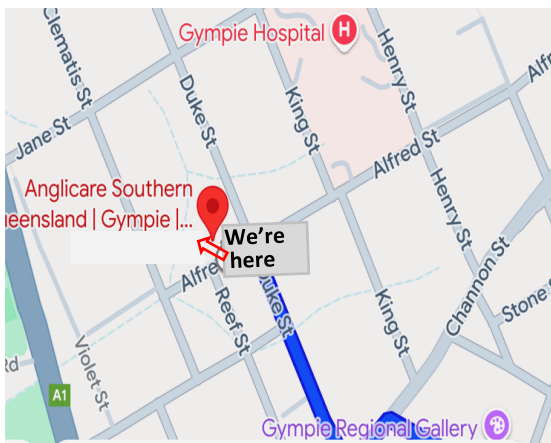
We’re gathering at St Peter’s this Sunday, 26th January.

However, from Tuesday, 28th January, work on the interior of the church will commence and as such we will not be holding services or gatherings at St Peter’s until further notice.

Ministry Groups gathering at Anglicare from next week are:

- Mother’s Union - 9.30 am on Tuesday, 28th January,
- Bible Study - 2.30 pm Thursday’s until further notice
- Christian Meditation - starting on Tuesday, 4th February at 5 pm
Please speak with your ministry leader if you have any questions.

On Sunday, 2nd February will be at the Anglicare Building Conference Room in Alfred St (44 Duke St - the old Dept of Transport Building) for our Sunday Services at 8.30 am and 5.30 pm. **There’s plenty of parking in the street & near the conference room entry door.**





ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, 5th February 2025

Join us at 5 pm for this special service.

Venue: Anglicare Conference Room at the rear of 44 Duke St, entrance from Alfred St - see map on page 6.

ALL WELCOME



Annual General Meeting

Sunday, 23rd February at 9.30 am.

Please join us for this important milestone in our Parish year.

Nomination forms for Wardens, Parish Councilors and

Nominators are at the back of the church. Completed forms to be placed in the *Nominations* box.

Please speak with Fr Shaji if you have any questions about serving on the Parish Council.

Please have narrative reports (emailed or posted) with the Church Office by Friday, 14th Feb.



Easter to Pentecost in 2025

Imagine every Anglican Church, in every town and city, in every suburb and community, all working in the same season to proclaim hope in our uncertain world.

Remembering our Parish mission is '*Living and telling the good news of Jesus Christ, reaching out to all in love and service*'.

Together, let's embark on a journey of faith, reaching out to touch hearts, inspire minds, and illuminate lives with the boundless hope found in Jesus Christ.

Will you join us?

We're studying HOPE 25 this year for Lenten Studies.

Availability of books will be advised in February.

Prayer for HOPE 25

God of Hope

You call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world;

By your Spirit awaken in us a true vision of your kingdom, a greater certainty of our salvation, and a deeper dedication to your service;

That through our words and actions the same Spirit may bring many who are lost to be found, and for them to celebrate the hope that we can only have in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

NEW PARISH CENTRE - Current Situation:

Tenders for the building have been sent to the following builders: Carfax Commercial; Manage Design Build (MDB) & Sutton Building Solutions.



'TAP, SWIPE, INSERT' for Sunday Giving: EFTPOS is now available at the back of the church for contactless giving. The Offertory Plate will not be passed around during the Service. Instead, there is a plate at the back of the church where you can give your Sunday Offering. Your support is appreciated!



Fancy That Op Shop

204 Mary St, Gympie Phn: 0493 378 944

Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm

Saturday 9 am to 12 noon

Closed Public Holidays

An outreach of



PARISH PANTRY - DONATIONS



Non-perishable food items: canned foods, pasta & sauce, snack foods, long life milk, cereals, rice, tea, coffee, tuna snacks, muesli bars, 2-Minute noodles & toiletries etc. Please leave at St Peter's or church office (Tues-Fri). Thank you for your support of this community outreach

Sunday's ZOOM information

Topic: St Peter's Sunday Evening Service **Time:** Each Sunday @ 05:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting via computer or mobile device (*Click or type link into your web browser*) <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7246788483> **Meeting ID:** 724 678 8483:

No password required

Please note ZOOM connection information does not change each week.

How to contribute financially to our Church

For those who would like to contribute, please see the options below.

- 1) **Deposits may be made by internet transfer from your bank direct to our Church Bank Account using the following information:**

Account Name: Anglican Parish Gympie **BSB:** 704-901 **Account Number:** 0000 5910
Please use all the four zeros when entering the Account No. & Reference your donation
E.g. "Giving General" "..... Appeal" "Giving Tree", "Shoe Box" etc

- 2) **Using the QR Code to donate via Commonwealth Bank BPoint Credit Card website**

A) If viewing on your computer or smart phone - click on the QR Code and it will take you to the B-Point website to make a donation by credit card **OR**

B) If reading a printed copy of pew sheet - hover your smart phone over the QR Code to link you to the BPoint website

Our bank details are already linked so you only need to add your details, credit card number & reference:

- 3) **Parish Direct via ANFIN** - An easy way of giving regularly:

Forms are available at the back of the Church or Church Office.



Parish Contacts

RECTOR: The Rev'd Shaji Joseph

Wardens:

Priest's: Dr John ('Jack') Wright

People's: Rene Dekker

Sue Topalov

Treasurer: Bronwyn Saunders

CHURCH OFFICE: 15 Amy Street, Gympie

Office Hours: 9 am to 3 pm Tuesday to Friday

Church Office Phone: 5482 2629 / 0408 745 024

Church Email: anglican.gympie@bigpond.com

Website: www.anglicangympie.org.au

Facebook: [Anglican Church Gympie](https://www.facebook.com/AnglicanChurchGympie)

Mainly music Gympie Anglican

Fancy That Op Shop-Gympie

